

Development of Building Codes

Program Description:




The MAG Building Codes Committee consists of building officials from MAG member agencies. It is responsible for making recommendations on the development, interpretation and enforcement of building codes in Maricopa County. It also provides a regional forum for construction and development as related to building codes.



Mission Statement:

Encourage and promote uniformity in the interpretation and enforcement of all the Building, Electrical, Plumbing and Mechanical Codes adopted by MAG member agencies.



2001-2002 Accomplishments

-  Adoption of 1999 National Electrical Code with five amendments as a standard
-  Approved interpretation of Uniform Mechanical Code Roof Access Provisions that two side railings were needed for roof access.
-  Adopted amendments to the ICC as a MAG Standard

-  Adoption of the Interpretation Regarding the Uniform Plan Review and Inspection of Pressure Treated Sill Plates.
-  Adoption of Revisions in the International Code Table that deals with climatic and geographic design criteria.

Building Codes Development:

Follow-up on FY 2002 Outcome Measures

C Measure: More widespread recognition and use of MAG Building Codes standards as a result of compilation and dissemination. Result: the MAG Building Codes Committee will complete the compilation of the notebook for dissemination beginning in July 2002.

C Measure: Member agencies adopting a set of Uniform Building Codes. Result: the MAG Building Codes Committee unanimously adopted the ICodes.

C Measure: A MAG standard to ensure compliance with accessibility requirements in the Fair Housing Act. Result: no standard was developed because of conflicts between the Uniform Building Code and the International Building Code.

FY 2003 Objectives:

- Enhance the use of e-commerce and the Internet to expedite permitting and to facilitate the development process.
- Foster code (plumbing, gas, electrical and building) understanding among MAG member agencies, construction stakeholders and the general public.
- Provide a forum for consensus responses to initiatives received from other levels of governments and agencies.
- Collaborate with associations related to the building profession on issues of mutual concern.
- Compare and contrast municipal programs related to the development process to strengthen individual member programs and to promote

uniformity.

FY 2003 Outcome Measures:

- *Five member agencies will institute electronic permitting enabling them to issue selected permits electronically.*
- *Develop a guest speaker program using members of the MAG Building Codes Committee and give three computer slide presentations to associations with a stake in the building and development process to enhance an understanding of the Codes..*
- *Develop three memos that provide MAG Building Codes Committee consensus responses to initiatives launched by bodies such as the Arizona Building Officials, the Homebuilders Association, and the American Institute of Architects.*
- *Hold three audioconferences and/or videoconferences with the staff of ICBO, ICC and NFPA to discuss the code change process and strengthen uniformity in the development interpretation and enforcement of building codes.*
- *Develop a matrix which compares and contrasts MAG such member agency programs as electronic permitting, training in the Building Codes, and Green Building Programs in order to identify inconsistencies and develop recommendations to resolve them.*